STD Pay Booths in West Bengal

1958. SHRI JOYANTA ROY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the murshidabad District Telecommunication Division published an advertisement in Newspapers for establishement of STD Pay Booths in Berhampore Town (District Headquarter) in West Bengal; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons that pay booths have not yet been established ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) The Telecom District Engineer, Berhampore has not published any advertisements in Newspapers for establishment of STD PCOs in Berhampore Town. However, the Chief General Manager, West Bengal Circle published advertisements in news papers on 21-10-93 and 22-10-93 for establishment of STD PCOs throughout West Bengal Circle.

(b) 190 applications have so far been received by Telecom District Engineer, Berhampore and the work of allotment of STD PCOs could not so far be taken up due to vehement opposition from some Service Unions.

Chelliah Committee's Recommendations on Government Servants Performance

1951. SHRI O. P. KOHLI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) what are recommendations of Chelliah Committee specially relating to accountability and competitiveness of Government servants; and

(b) the action taken by Government on these two recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) The Chelliah Committee in its report on 'Tax Reforms' had recommended interalia as under :—

(i) Ways should be found to hold the officers accountable for their performance. Explanation of officers should be called in cases of gross negligence of facts and over-looking points of law and palpable mistakes.

(ii) Present system of rewards should be changed. Honest officers should be rewarded and those failing in their tasks should be given adverse remarks.

(b) Government has accepted both these recommendations.

Import of Consumer Goods

1952. SHRI K. R. MALKANI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Finance Ministry is permitting more and more import of consumer goods;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Commerce Ministry has suggested cut in such imports; and

(c) if so, what Government propose to do to reconcile these differences and evolve a rational national policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) to (c) Imports of commodities, including consumer goods, is presently permitted as per the provisions of Export and Import Policy announced by Ministry of Commerce from time to time. Rationalisation of customs duties and import policies for consumer goods with a view to a suitable tariff-cum-OGL import regime has been incorporated in a Discussion Paper. However, no policy decision has been taken.

Tax Audit of Customs, Excise and Income Tax by Comptroller and Auditor General

1953. SHRI O. P. KOHLI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Comptroller and Auditor General of India has carried out any test audit of post-assessment records of the customs, central excise and income-tax during 1992-93 and 1993-94; and

(b) if so, the findings thereof and how do these findings compare with the preceding two years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Annual Report of Comptroller & Auditor General of India (CAG) for 1993-94 is yet to be presented before Parliament. Revenue effect of the observations made by CAG in the reports for the year 1992-93 as compared to those for the preceding two years are as under :—

Tax effect(Rs. in crores)

Tax	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93
Income Tax	489.13	1184.88	3490.62
Customs	52.68	49.89	6.58
Central Excise	270.33	198.23	77.07